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Kim

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[45] **Date of Patent:** **Jul. 18, 2000**

[54] **METHOD OF FABRICATING INTERCONNECT LINES AND PLATE ELECTRODES OF A STORAGE CAPACITOR IN A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE**

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[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Aug. 22, 1995 [KR] Rep. of Korea 95-25966

[51] **Int. Cl.⁷** **H01L 21/8242**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **438/253; 438/250**

[58] **Field of Search** 438/250-256, 438/293-398

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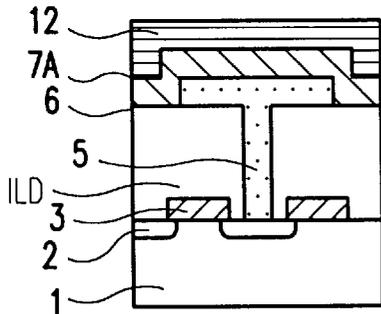
Primary Examiner—Jey Tsai
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Jones, Volentine, Steinberg & Whitt, L.L.P.

[57] **ABSTRACT**

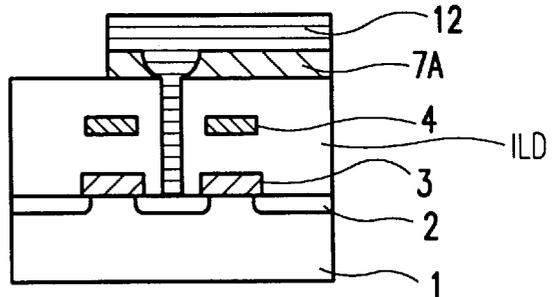
A method of fabricating a semiconductor device where the formation of a conductive layer typically over a storage capacitor on the device is used both as a plate electrode and also as an interconnect line. The method therefore combines the fabrication process steps of forming a plate electrode with the steps of forming a wiring layer. In a preferred embodiment, the storage capacitor is part of a cell array portion of a semiconductor memory device, whereas the interconnect line is in a peripheral portion of the memory device.

4 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

CELL ARRAY PORTION



PERIPHERAL CIRCUIT PORTION



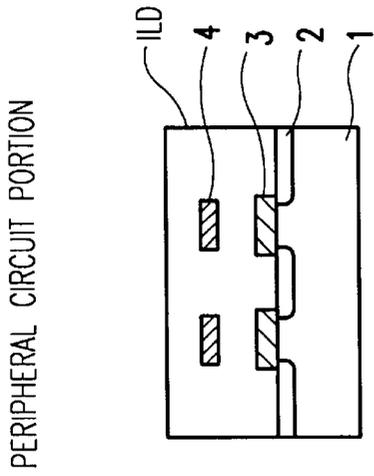


FIG. 1B
PRIOR ART

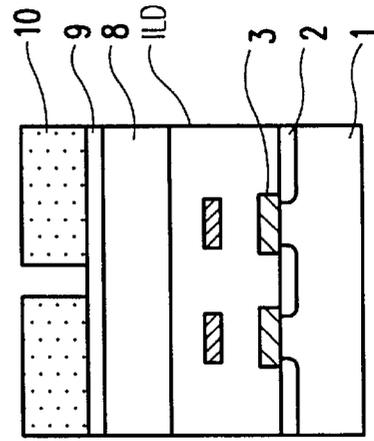


FIG. 2B
PRIOR ART

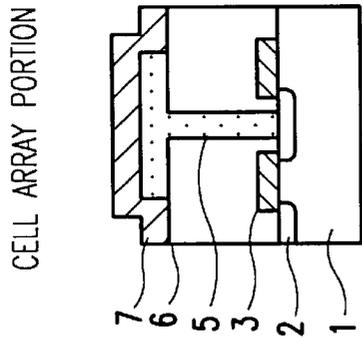


FIG. 1A
PRIOR ART

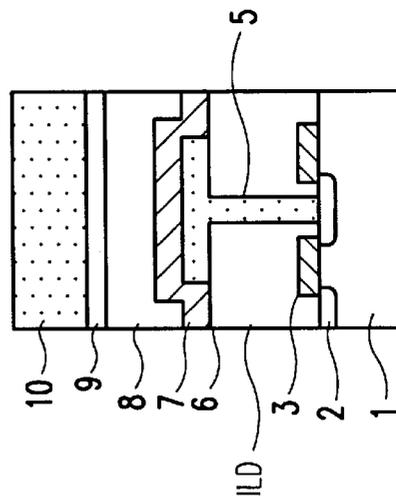


FIG. 2A
PRIOR ART

CELL ARRAY PORTION

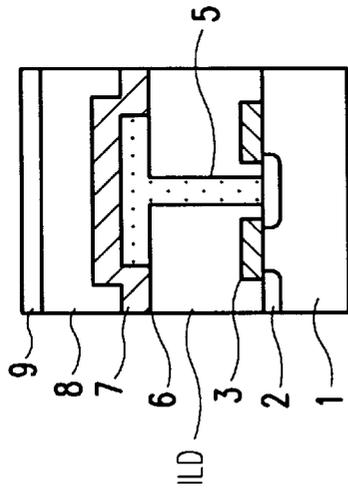


FIG. 3A
PRIOR ART

PERIPHERAL CIRCUIT PORTION

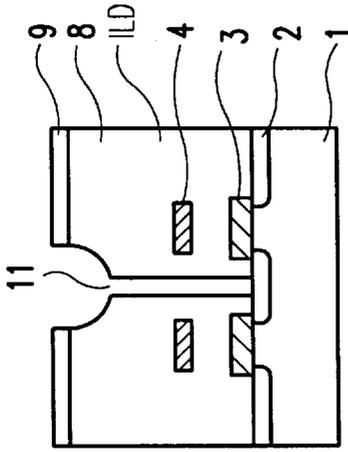


FIG. 3B
PRIOR ART

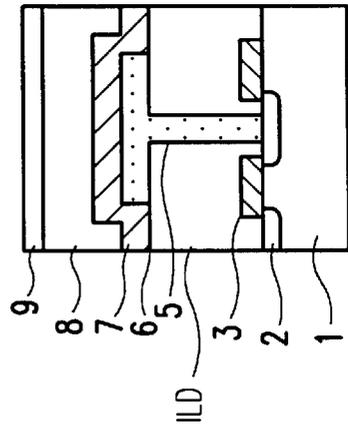


FIG. 4A
PRIOR ART

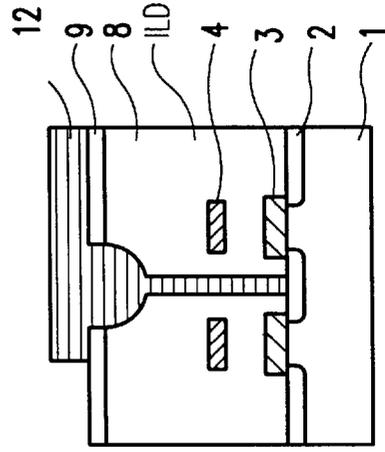


FIG. 4B
PRIOR ART

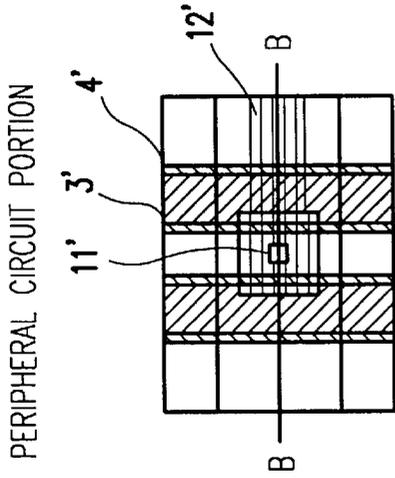


FIG. 5B
PRIOR ART

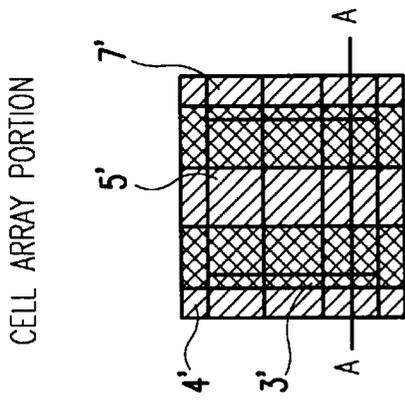


FIG. 5A
PRIOR ART

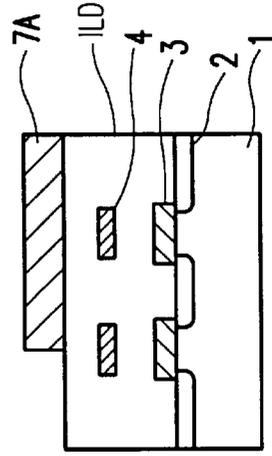


FIG. 10B

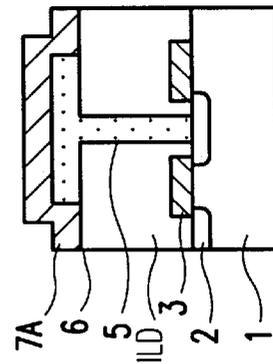


FIG. 10A

CELL ARRAY
PORTION

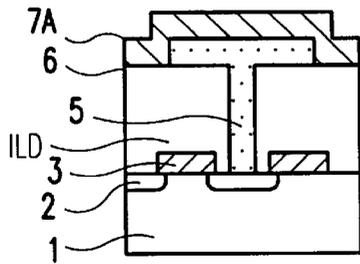


FIG. 6A

PERIPHERAL CIRCUIT
PORTION

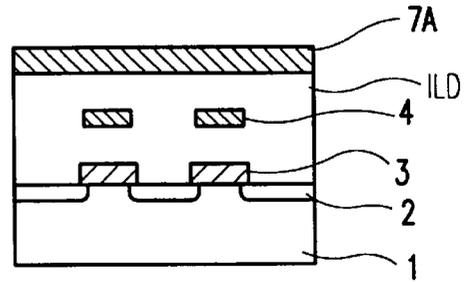


FIG. 6B

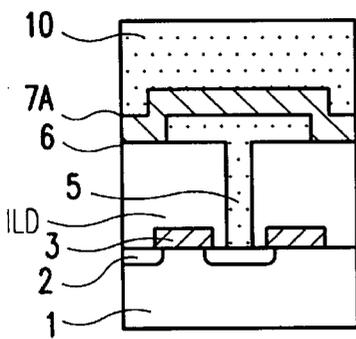


FIG. 7A

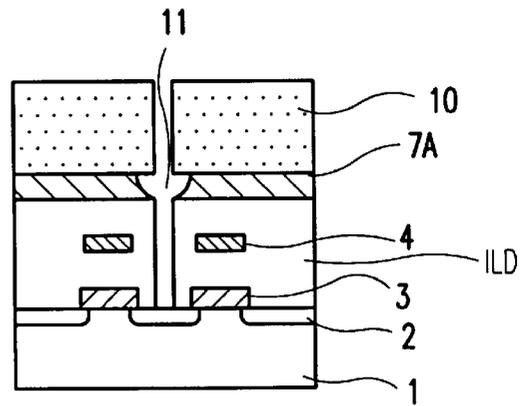


FIG. 7B

CELL ARRAY
PORTION

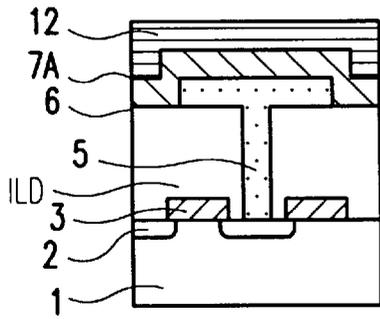


FIG.8A

PERIPHERAL CIRCUIT
PORTION

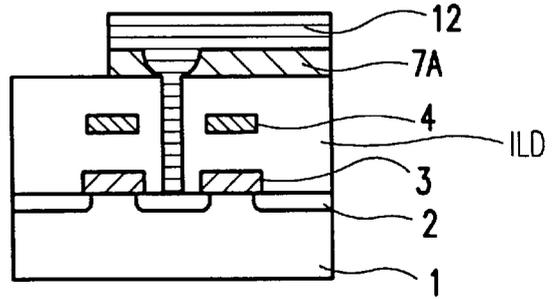


FIG.8B

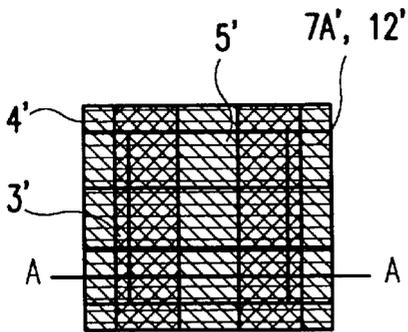


FIG.9A

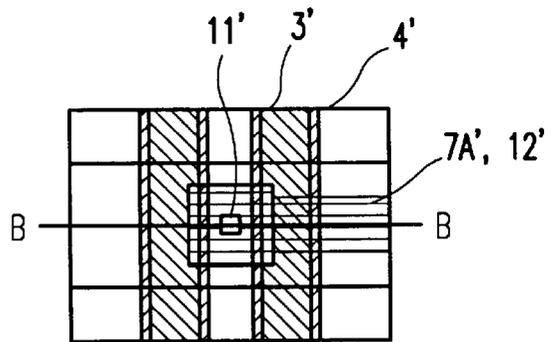


FIG.9B

PERIPHERAL CIRCUIT PORTION

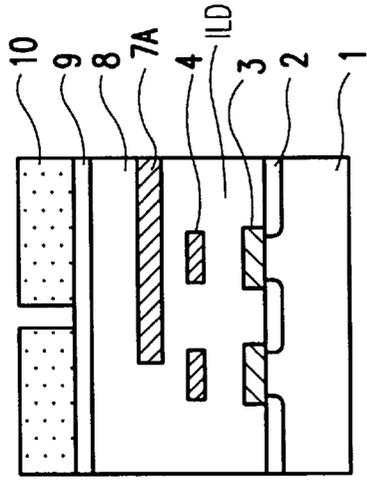


FIG. 111B

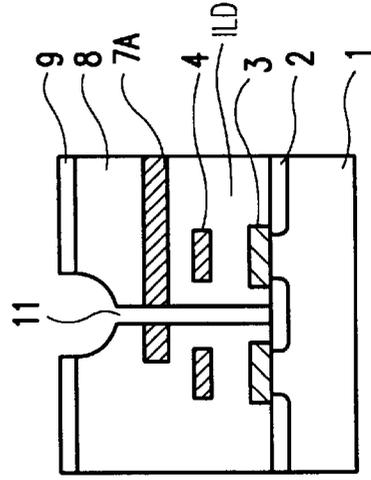


FIG. 12B

CELL ARRAY PORTION

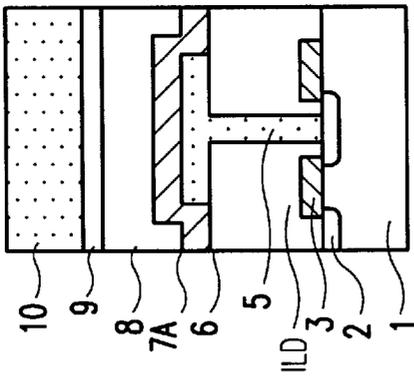


FIG. 111A

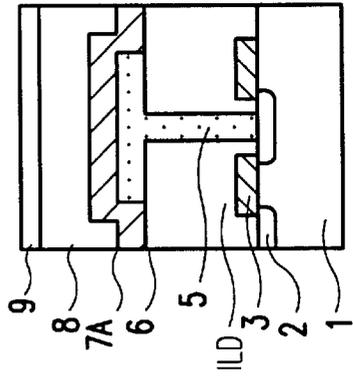


FIG. 12A

CELL ARRAY
PORTION

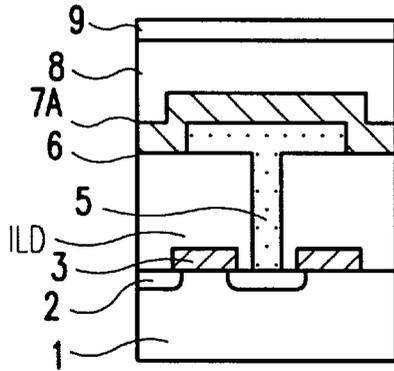


FIG. 13A

PERIPHERAL CIRCUIT
PORTION

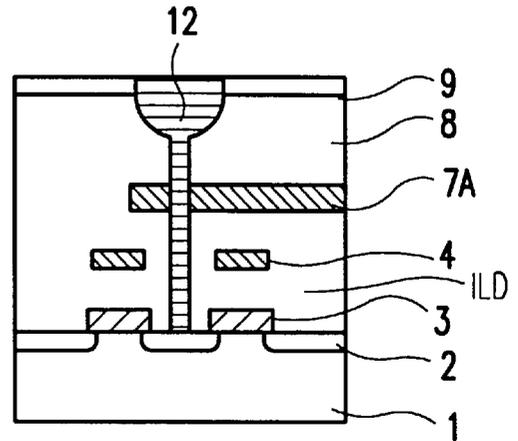


FIG. 13B

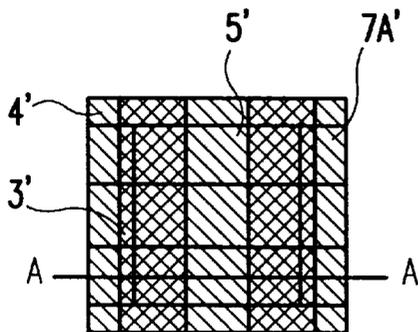


FIG. 14A

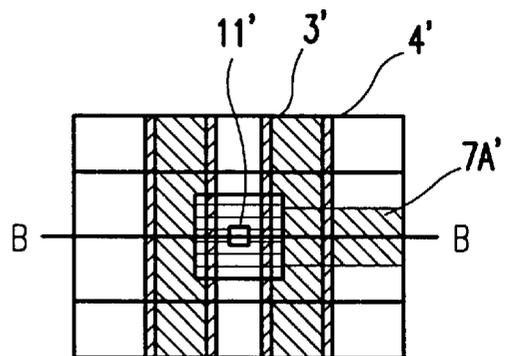


FIG. 14B

CELL ARRAY
PORTION

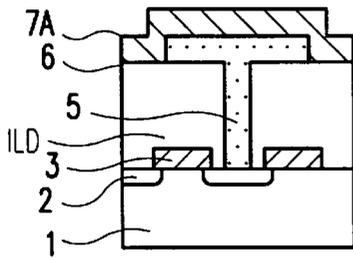


FIG. 15A

PERIPHERAL CIRCUIT
PORTION

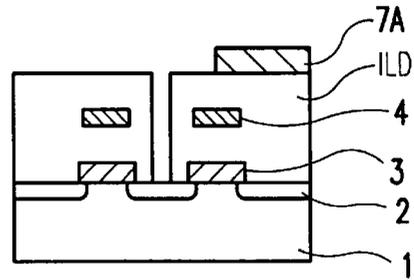


FIG. 15B

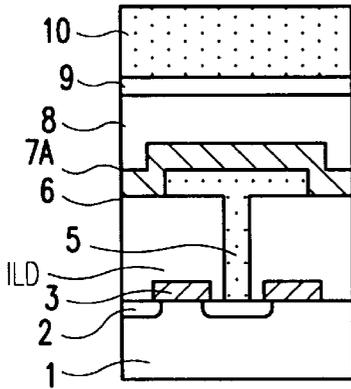


FIG. 16A

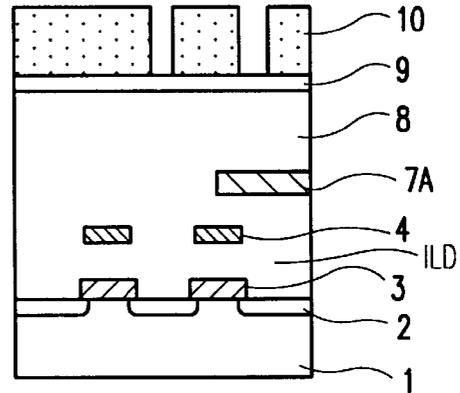


FIG. 16B

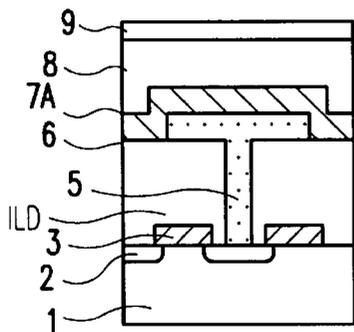


FIG. 17A

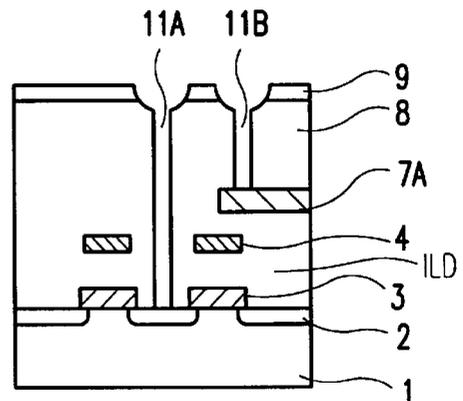


FIG. 17B

CELL ARRAY
PORTION

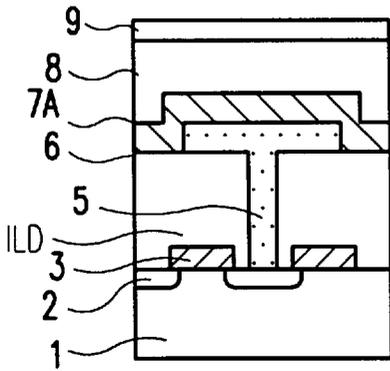


FIG.18A

PERIPHERAL CIRCUIT
PORTION

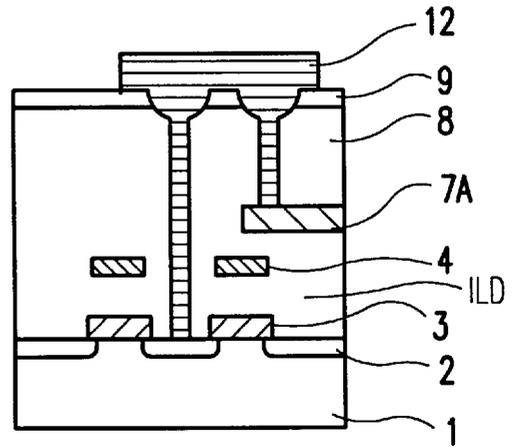


FIG.18B

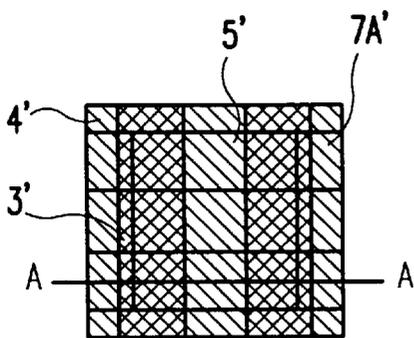


FIG.19A

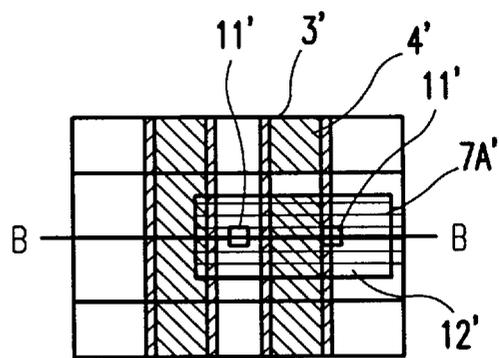


FIG.19B

**METHOD OF FABRICATING
INTERCONNECT LINES AND PLATE
ELECTRODES OF A STORAGE CAPACITOR
IN A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE**

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to a method of fabricating semiconductor devices. In particular, the invention is directed to a method of fabricating interconnect lines together with plate electrodes of a storage capacitor in a semiconductor device such as a semiconductor memory.

The chosen method of fabricating interconnect lines or wiring layers in a semiconductor device plays an important role in the production of semiconductor devices such as semiconductor memories (e.g., dynamic random access memories (DRAM), static random access memories (SRAM), etc.). The manner in which such interconnect lines are fabricated in the device may affect the processing speed and reliability of the device, as well as the manufacturing yield of the production.

With the constant pressure to achieve higher integration in semiconductor devices, especially in memory devices, the skilled artisan is required to forego the horizontal expansion of the integration across the base of the device in favor of vertical development. This increase in vertical integration of a semiconductor device typically involves applying multiple layers of integration, thus, leading to an increase in the aspect ratio (i.e., ratio of vertical height to the horizontal length) of the device. High aspect ratios lead to significant problems in the fabrication process. Each layer added to the design of the semiconductor device increases the complexity of and time delay in overall production time.

FIGS. 1A-5B illustrate a conventional semiconductor device during fabrication having a relatively high aspect ratio (approximately 4.5-5.5). (For ease of illustration, among FIGS. 1A-5B, figures labeled with like numbers represent the semiconductor device during the same process step of fabrication. Figures having a suffix "A," however, represent a cross-sectional view of the cell array portion of a conventional semiconductor memory device viewed along line "A-A" of FIG. 5A, whereas figures having a suffix "B," represent a cross-sectional view of the peripheral circuit portion of the same semiconductor memory device viewed along line "B-B" of FIG. 5B.)

The conventional semiconductor memory device shown in Fig. 1A is fabricated with a source/drain region 2 and gate electrode 3 of a transistor formed on a semiconductor substrate 1. Over the electrode region 3 an inter layer dielectric (ILD) is patterned having bit lines 4 formed as shown in FIG. 1B. A storage electrode 5 (FIG. 1A) is patterned in and above the ILD. A dielectric film 6 is deposited over the storage electrode 5, together with a plate electrode 7. The dielectric film 6 and electrode 7 are patterned to complete a storage cell capacitor for the memory cell in the cell array of the semiconductor memory device.

A planarization layer 8 (FIG. 2A) is used to planarize the step coverage produced by the fabrication process. Material such as O₃-TEOS (tetra ethoxy silane) is typically used and deposited to a thickness of 3000-7000 Å (angstroms). An insulation layer 9, typically made of PE-TEOS (plasma enhanced-tetra ethoxy silane), is deposited to a thickness of 1000-3000 Å. A layer of photoresist 10 is then formed and patterned to allow for the formation of a contact hole in the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device, as shown in FIG. 2B. As shown in FIGS. 3A and 3B, the semiconductor device is then exposed to an isotropic-etching process step

that etches insulation layer 9 and planarization layer 8 to a depth of 1000-4000 Å. The remainder of the planarization layer 8 and ILD are then etched using an anisotropic-etching process to form contact hole 11 over source/drain region 2 (FIG. 3B).

Tungsten is deposited in the contact hole 11 and on the top surface of the semiconductor device to a thickness of 2000-5000 Å to form a conductive layer 12. This layer is patterned to form interconnect line 12 in the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device, as shown in FIG. 4B. FIGS. 5A and 5B show mask works used during the fabrication process to form the various layers of the cell array portion and the peripheral portion, respectively, of the semiconductor memory device. As shown in Fig. 5A, a gate electrode mask 3', a bit line mask 4', a storage electrode mask 5', and a plate electrode mask 7' are respectively used to form the gate electrode 3, bit line 4, storage electrode 5, and plate electrode 7 of the cell array portion of the semiconductor device. Similarly, in FIG. 5B, gate electrode mask 3', bit line mask 4', contact hole mask 11', and interconnect line mask 12' are respectively used to form the gate electrode 3, bit line 4, contact hole 11, and interconnect line 12 of the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device.

As can be seen from the above brief description of the fabrication process for a conventional semiconductor device, a semiconductor device, such as a memory device, having high integration requires a multitude of layers. Any increase in integration, for example, adding interconnect lines or wiring layers, would increase the aspect ratio. As the aspect ratio increases, the problems in fabrication and reliability of the device increase. For example, because the contact hole 11 (FIG. 3B) is so deep (i.e., 1.2 microns), the gas used to etch the contact hole in the anisotropic-etching process step cannot react properly with the oxide layer at the bottom of the contact hole. As a result, the metal contact necessary for the reliable operation of the semiconductor device is inferior. Furthermore, such an increase in the number of layers causes significant delays in the overall production of the semiconductor devices as each new layer adds one or more steps to the overall fabrication process, thus, further complicating and delaying the manufacture of the devices.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a method that permits the increase of integration of semiconductor devices without a corresponding increase in the aspect ratio of the devices.

It is an object of the invention to provide a method that allows fabrication of highly integrated semiconductor devices without further complicating or delaying the fabrication process.

The present invention accomplishes the above and other objects and advantages by providing a method of fabricating a semiconductor device where the formation of a conductive layer typically over a storage capacitor on the device is used both as a plate electrode and also as an interconnect line. The method therefore combines the fabrication process steps of forming a plate electrode with the steps of forming a wiring layer. In a preferred embodiment, the storage capacitor is part of a cell array portion of a semiconductor memory device, whereas the interconnect line is in a peripheral portion of the memory device.

Using the present invention, the high levels of integration desired in semiconductor devices can be achieved without

increasing the aspect ratio and without adding complex, time-consuming, and costly process steps to the overall fabrication process. As a result, the contact inferiority and unreliability found in highly integrated semiconductor devices having high aspect ratios produced in accordance with conventional fabrication processes can be obviated. In addition, because the conductive layer of the semiconductor device fabricated in accordance with the present invention functions as the plate electrode of the storage capacitor in the cell array portion of the memory device, as well as functioning as the interconnect layer in the peripheral portion of the device, the added wiring layer does not require a separate patterning process step. The increase in integration therefore does not require an accompanying increase in process steps and corresponding process delays.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The foregoing and other objects and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the detailed description of the preferred embodiments of the present invention given below with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIGS. 1A and 1B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a conventional semiconductor memory device during the formation of the storage electrode in the cell array portion;

FIGS. 2A and 2B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a conventional semiconductor memory device during the deposition of a photoresist layer on the device;

FIGS. 3A and 3B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a conventional semiconductor memory device during the formation of a contact hole of the device;

FIGS. 4A and 4B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a conventional semiconductor memory device during the formation of an interconnect line of the device;

FIGS. 5A and 5B respectively illustrate mask works used to form the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a conventional semiconductor memory device;

FIGS. 6A and 6B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having a first conductive layer formed in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 7A and 7B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having a layer of photoresist deposited in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 8A and 8B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having a second conductive layer formed in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 9A and 9B respectively illustrate mask works used to form the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device in accordance with the process steps illustrated in FIGS. 6A–8B;

FIGS. 10A and 10B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having a first conductive layer formed in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 11A and 11B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having a layer of photoresist deposited in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 12A and 12B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having a contact hole formed in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 13A and 13B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having a second conductive layer formed in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 14A and 14B respectively illustrate mask works used to form the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device in accordance with the process steps illustrated in FIGS. 10A–13B;

FIGS. 15A and 15B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having a first conductive layer formed in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 16A and 16B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having a layer of photoresist deposited in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 17A and 17B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having contact holes formed in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention;

FIGS. 18A and 18B respectively illustrate the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device having a second conductive layer formed in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention; and

FIGS. 19A and 19B respectively illustrate mask works used to form the cell array and peripheral circuit portions of a semiconductor memory device in accordance with the process steps illustrated in FIGS. 15A–18B.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION

The present invention will be described in detail herein as embodied in the preferred embodiments illustrated in FIGS. 6A–19B. Although these embodiments depict the invention as applied to a semiconductor memory device, it should be readily apparent that the invention has equal application to any type of semiconductor device that encounters problems related to an increase in vertical integration or can otherwise benefit from a reduction in the number of process steps required in fabrication. (For ease of illustration, among FIGS. 6A–19B, figures labeled with like numbers represent a semiconductor device made in accordance with the invention during the same process step of fabrication. Figures having a suffix “A,” however, represent a cross-sectional view of the cell array portion of the semiconductor device as viewed along line “A—A” of one of FIGS. 9A, 14A, or 19A, corresponding to the embodiment illustrated, whereas figures having a suffix “B,” represent a cross-sectional view of the peripheral circuit portion of the same semiconductor memory device viewed along line “B—B” of one of FIGS. 9B, 14B, or 19B corresponding to the embodiment illustrated.)

FIGS. 6A and 6B illustrate a semiconductor device such as a DRAM device having a cell array portion in which transistors are made of source/drain regions 2 within a base of silicon substrate 1, and gate electrodes 3 deposited on substrate 1 above a channel region connecting adjacent or spaced apart source/drain regions 2. An inter layer dielectric (ILD) layer is formed over the transistors having bit lines 4 deposited therein, as shown in FIG. 6B. The ILD may be formed, for example, from annealing BPSG (boron phosphorous silicate glass) film in an atmosphere of nitrogen gas

N₂) Any other known method of forming ILD, however, may suffice, including the use of HTO (high temperature oxide) film or USG (undoped silicate glass) film.

A storage electrode **5** is formed in the cell array portion of the semiconductor memory device over the ILD. In the preferred embodiment, doped polysilicon having a thickness of 3000–7000 Å (angstroms) is used for the storage electrode **5**. (Any suitable dopant material, however, such as phosphorus, arsenic, boron or an equivalent may be used as a dopant for the polysilicon used in the storage electrode.) The storage electrode **5** is covered by a dielectric film **6** formed from Ta₂O₅ with a thickness of 50–150 Å in the preferred embodiment. Other known dielectric films deemed suitable, such as ONO (oxide nitride oxide), BZT (Ba_xSr_{1-x}TiO₃), PZT (PbZrTiO₃), or other equivalent material may be utilized.

A layer of polysilicon doped with ions of an element from Group V of the periodic table (i.e., vanadium, niobium, tantalum, unnilpentium, nitrogen, phosphorus, arsenic, antimony, bismuth) is then formed as conductive layer **7A**. (Although polysilicon is used to describe this embodiment of the invention, it should be understood that any material suitable for use as a conductive layer, such as tungsten, can be used in practicing the present invention.) The conductive layer **7A** serves as the plate electrode of the storage capacitor in the cell array portion of the semiconductor memory device. Rather than terminating the conductive layer **7A** at the end of the cell array portion, the conductive layer **7A** is extended over the ILD in the peripheral circuit portion of the semiconductor memory device.

As shown in FIGS. **7A** and **7B**, a layer of photoresist **10** is added and patterned to begin formulation of contact hole **11**. Using an isotropic-etching technique, an opening for the contact hole **11** is formed in conductive layer **7A**. The ILD material is then anisotropically etched over the desired contact area, for example, on source/drain region **2** of substrate **1**, to complete the formation of contact hole **11**. (In FIG. **7B**, the contact hole **11** is illustrated as appearing over a source/drain region **2** in the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device. It should be understood that the contact hole could appear in any area or portion of the semiconductor device without detracting from the present invention.)

To form an interconnect line for the semiconductor memory device, a suitable conductive material such as tungsten is deposited on the conductive layer **7A** to form a second conductive layer **12**, as shown in FIGS. **8A** and **8B**. In this preferred embodiment, the tungsten material is deposited in contact hole **11** and on the surface of conductive layer **7A** to a thickness of 2000–8000 Å. (Although tungsten is used in this preferred embodiment as the additional conductive layer, it should be appreciated that any other suitable conductive material such as aluminum may be used in the practice of the invention.) Both conductive layer **7A** and second conductive layer **12** are exposed to an etching process step that concurrently patterns the two conductive layers to the desired form, as shown in FIG. **8B**.

FIGS. **9A** and **9B** show mask works used during the novel fabrication process to form the various layers of the cell array portion and the peripheral portion, respectively, of the semiconductor memory device. As shown in FIG. **9A**, a gate electrode mask **3'**, a bit line mask **4'**, a storage electrode mask **5'**, a plate electrode mask **7A'**, and an interconnect line mask **12'** are respectively used to form the gate electrode **3**, bit line **4**, storage electrode **5**, plate electrode **7A**, and interconnect line **12** of the cell array portion of the semi-

conductor device. Similarly, in FIG. **9B**, gate electrode mask **3'**, bit line mask **4'**, plate electrode mask **7A'**, contact hole mask **11'**, and interconnect line mask **12'** are respectively used to form the gate electrode **3**, bit line **4**, plate electrode **7A**, contact hole **11**, and interconnect line **12** of the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device.

As can be seen from the description above, the semiconductor device, shown in FIGS. **6A–9B**, fabricated in accordance with the present invention permits the addition of a wiring layer (i.e., interconnect line) in the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device without adding process steps to the overall fabrication process. Indeed, because the conductive layer **7A** is used as both the plate electrode for the storage electrode **5** in the cell array portion, and also as the interconnect line in the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device, the separate photolithography steps of patterning a plate electrode and an interconnect line can be combined into one step. The increase in integration of the device, therefore, does not necessitate the same complexity and delay inherent in the conventional fabrication process when integration is increased.

The invention also produces a semiconductor device having an aspect ratio of 3 compared with the aspect ratios between 4.5 and 5.5 found in devices fabricated in accordance with conventional processes. The lower aspect ratio achieved through the present invention eliminates the need for complex and costly fabrication technology without sacrificing higher integration. Moreover, the semiconductor device resulting from the inventive fabrication process has a reduced contact hole depth (i.e., less than 1 micron) due to the use of the conductive layer **7A** in the peripheral portion as part of the interconnect line of the semiconductor device. The smaller contact hole depth avoids the etching problems found in conventional processes that produce devices having larger depths.

In another embodiment of the present invention, the process shown in FIGS. **6A–9B** (described above) is modified in the following manner. After conductive layer **7A** is deposited in the manner described in the previous embodiment, the conductive layer **7A** is patterned as desired (FIG. **10A** and **10B**). A planarization layer **8** is then deposited (FIGS. **11A** and **11B**) to a thickness of 3000–6000 Å. (Although this embodiment employs O₃-TEOS as the planarization material, any other material suitable for planarizing the surface of a substrate may be used in practicing the invention. For example, the planarization layer **8** may be formed as a BPSG film subjected to an annealing process at temperatures of 800–900° C. in an atmosphere of N₂.) Insulation layer **9** is then deposited to a thickness of 1000–3000 Å using PE-TEOS (or other suitable insulation material such as oxidation film). On the insulation layer **9** a photoresist film **10** is deposited and patterned in order to form a contact hole in the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device.

In forming the contact hole **11** (FIG. **12B**), the insulation layer **9** and planarization layer **8** are isotropically etched to a depth of 1000–4000 Å. Anisotropically etching the remaining portion of planarization layer **8** and the first conductive layer over the desired contact point, for example, over source/drain region **2** of substrate **1**, completes the formation of contact hole **11**.

The contact hole **11** is filled with a conductive material such as tungsten, aluminum, or other suitable material. This conductive material is deposited in the hole **11** and on the surface of the device to a thickness of 2000–8000 Å to form a second conductive layer **12** (FIG. **13B**). This conductive

layer 12 is then etched-back so that only the material within the contact hole 11 remains.

FIGS. 14A and 14B show mask works used during the novel fabrication process of this embodiment to form the various layers of the cell array portion and the peripheral portion, respectively, of the semiconductor memory device. As shown in FIG. 14A, a gate electrode mask 3', a bit line mask 4', a storage electrode mask 5', and plate electrode mask 7A' are respectively used to form the gate electrode 3, bit line 4, storage electrode 5, and plate electrode 7A of the cell array portion of the semiconductor device. Similarly, in FIG. 14B, gate electrode mask 3', bit line mask 4', plate electrode mask 7A', and contact hole mask 11', are respectively used to form the gate electrode 3, bit line 4, plate electrode 7A, contact hole 11, of the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device.

Using the process according to this embodiment, the interconnect line in the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device has the second conductive layer 12 in direct contact with source/drain region 2, and in side-wall contact with conductive layer 7A. Because the conductive layer 7A is patterned for use as an interconnect line in the peripheral portion concurrently with the patterning of the layer 7A as a plate electrode in the cell array portion, no additional metal patterning steps are required to form the wiring layer of the semiconductor device.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the same process steps discussed above with respect to the other embodiments of the invention, namely the steps used to form source/drain regions 2 (FIGS. 15A and 15B), gate electrodes 3, bit lines 4, the ILD, storage electrode 5, dielectric film 6, and conductive layer 7A, are duplicated in this embodiment. The conductive layer 7A, however, is patterned so as to permit the formation of a wider metal contact area, as shown in FIG. 15B. The conductive layer 7A continues to function both as the plate electrode for storage electrode 5 in the cell array portion of the semiconductor device, and also as the interconnect line for the peripheral portion of the device.

As shown in FIGS. 16A and 16B, a planarization layer 8, insulation layer 9, and photoresist layer 10 are all deposited in the same manner as in the previously described embodiments. The photoresist layer 10, however, is patterned in such a way as to facilitate the formation of two adjacent contact holes. The two contact holes 11A and 11B (FIG. 17B) are formed through an etching process. First, an isotropic-etching process step etches insulation layer 9 and planarizing layer 8 to a depth of 1000–4000 Å. Second, an anisotropic-etching process step etches the remaining portion of the planarization layer 8 and the ILD over the desired contact point, for example, source/drain region 2 of the silicon substrate 1, to form contact hole 11A. For the formation of the second contact hole 11B, the anisotropic-etching process step forms an opening over a contact area on conductive layer 7A, as shown in FIG. 17B.

As in the previous embodiments, a conductive material such as tungsten, aluminum, or any other suitable material, is deposited in the contact holes 11A and 11B, and over the surface of the semiconductor device to a thickness of 2000–8000 Å to form second conductive layer 12. The second conductive layer 12 is then etched back to leave a portion of layer 12 covering contact holes 11A and 11B, as shown in FIGS. 18A and 18B.

FIGS. 19A and 19B show mask works used during the novel fabrication process to form the various layers of the cell array portion and the peripheral portion, respectively, of the semiconductor memory device. As shown in FIG. 19A,

a gate electrode mask 3', a bit line mask 4', a storage electrode mask 5', and plate electrode mask 7A' are respectively used to form the gate electrode 3, bit line 4, storage electrode 5, and plate electrode 7A of the cell array portion of the semiconductor device. Similarly, in FIG. 19B, gate electrode mask 3', bit line mask 4', plate electrode mask 7A', contact hole mask 11', and second conductive layer mask 12' are respectively used to form the gate electrode 3, bit line 4, plate electrode 7A, contact hole 11, and second conductive layer 12 of the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device.

Producing a semiconductor device using this embodiment of the invention results in a high integration device having a relatively low aspect ratio. By patterning the conductive layer 7A as an interconnect line in the peripheral portion of the semiconductor device, the metal contact can be made wider than those produced using conventional processes. This additional dimension reduces the aspect ratio, while permitting an increase in the integration.

While the invention has been described in detail in connection with the preferred embodiments known at the time, it should be readily understood that the invention is not limited to such disclosed embodiments. Rather, the invention can be modified to incorporate any number of variations, alterations, substitutions or equivalent arrangements not heretofore described, but are commensurate with the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of forming a portion of a semiconductor device, wherein the formed semiconductor device has at least one storage cell, the method comprising the steps of:
 - forming a storage electrode in the semiconductor device;
 - forming a first conductive layer over the storage electrode, wherein the storage electrode and the first conductive layer comprise a storage cell capacitor for the semiconductor device;
 - forming a second conductive layer over the first conductive layer; and
 - concurrently patterning the first and second conductive layers in the semiconductor device to form both a plate electrode over the storage capacitor of the semiconductor device, and also an interconnect line for the semiconductor memory device
 wherein the plate electrode is disposed in a cell array portion of the semiconductor memory device and the interconnect line is disposed in a peripheral circuit area in a peripheral portion of the semiconductor memory device.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
 - preparing a silicon base to include source and drain regions spaced apart by a channel region in the silicon base;
 - forming at least one gate electrode overlying the channel region;
 - forming an inter layer dielectric (ILD) overlying the silicon base and at least one gate electrode;
 - forming a dielectric film overlying the storage electrode in the cell array portion of the semiconductor device, wherein the dielectric film is formed prior to said step of forming a first conductive layer, said step of forming a first conductive layer comprising the substeps of forming a first conductive layer over the dielectric film in the cell array portion of the semiconductor memory device and over the ILD in the peripheral circuit area of

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the semiconductor memory device, wherein the storage electrode, ILD, dielectric film, and cell array portion of the first conductive layer complete a storage cell capacitor for the semiconductor memory device;

forming a patterned layer of photoresist over the first conductive layer in both the cell array and peripheral circuit areas of the semiconductor memory device; and

forming a contact hole in the peripheral portion of the semiconductor memory device, wherein said step of forming a second conductive layer comprises the sub-step of depositing a conductive material in the contact hole and on the first conductive layer; and

wherein said step of concurrently patterning the first and second conductive layers comprises the substeps of patterning the plate electrode over the storage capacitor in the cell array portion of the semiconductor memory device, and also forming the interconnect line area over the contact hole in the peripheral circuit area of the semiconductor memory device.

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3. The method of claim 2, wherein said step of forming an inter layer dielectric (ILD) comprises the substep of annealing the semiconductor memory device using nitrogen gas to form an ILD of boron phosphorous silicate glass (BPSG); and

wherein the storage electrode is made of doped polysilicon, the dielectric film is made of Ta₂O₅, the first conductive layer is made of polysilicon doped with ions from nitrogen, and the second conductive layer is made of tungsten.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein said step of forming a contact hole comprises the substeps of isotropically etching the first conductive layer in the peripheral portion, and anisotropically etching the ILD over a contact point in the peripheral portion of the semiconductor memory device.

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